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Moya Kinnealey

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Moya Kinnealey

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Philip W. Hammond et al. Art Unit: 1637

Serial No.: 09/910,518 Examiner: Spiegler, A. H.

Filed: July 20, 2001 Customer No.: 21559

Title: METHODS FOR PRODUCING NUCLEIC ACIDS LACKING 3'-UNTRANSLATED REGIONS AND OPTIMIZING CELLULAR RNA-PROTEIN FUSION FORMATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby petition that the period for replying to the Office action that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned application on February 25, 2003 be extended for three months, to and including August 25, 2003.

Enclosed is a check for \$930.00 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a). If there are any other charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 21, 2003

Susan M. Michaud
Karen L. Elbing, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 35,238 Susan M. Michaud
 Reg. No. 42,885

Clark & Elbing LLP
101 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-428-0200
Facsimile: 617-428-7045